

# 2007 Year End Report

**January 7th, 2008** 

# Zionsville Fire Department's Mission Statement

The mission of the Zionsville Fire Department is to prevent harm to the citizens and visitors of the Town of Zionsville, Eagle Township, Union Township, and other areas requested, by providing the highest possible levels of service through fire prevention, public education, fire suppression, emergency medical services, and mitigation of the effects of natural and man-made disasters consistent with the resources provided, and in the safest manner possible for those providing these services.

# STATEMENT OF VALUES

Public Services - committed to providing the highest level of service to citizens and visitors of the Town of Zionsville, Eagle Township, and Union Township within the resources allocated.

Bravery and Courage - committed to service to the public, and in offering such service, our employees will act bravely and with courage as required.

Caring - committed to dealing with each citizen in a timely, professional, and courteous manner.

Teamwork - committed to the development of a team working together to achieve goals in a trusting and cooperative environment.

Management - committed to excellence in management, working toward the best interests of employees, residents and visitors of the protection area.

Individual Responsibilities - committed to employee excellence, expecting no less than the best effort on each task performed.

Professionalism - committed to professionalism in performance, appearance, and attitude.

Safety - committed to the safety of citizens and visitors of the Town of Zionsville, Eagle Township and Union Township, and the personnel of the Zionsville Fire Department.

Productivity - committed to greater productivity by continually offering new or increased services of emergency mitigation and control.

Education - committed to education for its personnel and the public to limit death and destruction from fires and other emergencies.

Community Relations - committed to the continued improvement of our community.

# **2007 Incident Statistics**

# **Fire Prevention Report**

-	2006	2007
Public Education	74	94
Station tours	12	16
Pre-school programs	8	11
Elementary school programs	14	10
Adult programs	7	7
Safety Trailer Programs	0	20
Special events	17	18
Home Safety Inspections	0	5
Misc.	16	7
Total Children Total Adults	2,176 609	3,723 1,014
Commercial Building Inspections	175	209
General Inspections	115	127
Final occupancy inspections	26	28
Partial/Temporary occupancy	1	3
Pre-occupancy inspections	33	51
Commercial Certificates of Occ.	18	12
Plan Reviews	133	142
Dry Hydrant Testing	4	7

# Major Accomplishments for the Zionsville Fire Department

# 1. Hired first fulltime personnel

In March of 2007 the Zionsville Fire Department hired the first fulltime employees the department has ever had. Fifteen (15) firefighters are spread over three shifts allowing the department to maintain 4 1/2 fulltime firefighters working at any one time. Supported by part-time as well as our ever dedicated volunteers, the department provides fire and emergency medical services to fifty-two (52) sq/miles and an estimated population in excess of 25,000 people.

#### 2. Became Advance Life Support EMS Provider

The single most important operational advancement for the department was the Advance Life Support Certification; emergency medical services have been and will continue to be the core of what we do----saving lives. We saw a 116 % increase in 2006 for emergency medical service responses and now we are realizing an additional 74% increase in 2007. The department has met this need by partnering with St. Vincent Hospitals, and Dr. Mike Kauffman as our medical Director, without their support, guidance, and direction we would not be where we are today!

3. Added 2<sup>nd</sup> Ambulance in the Spring of 2007 In the spring of 2007 Zionsville Fire Department put a second ambulance on line to meet the needs of the community. 4. Provide emergency services to Union Township & construct a fire station Zionsville Fire Department began providing services to Union Township. The Fire Department is actively working with Union Township officials regarding the specifications on the new fire station which is scheduled to open in late 2008 with Zionsville Fire Department staffing and providing both and fire and EMS services from this facility.

#### 5. Federal Grants

We began to use our Mobile Fire Safety and Prevention trailer this year during fire prevention Month. We presented safety and education programs to over 2500 children and nearly 400 adults in a one month period of time. The safety trailer was funded by a federal grant in the amount of almost \$40,000.

# Firefighter Health & Fitness Grant

The Department received a Federal grant totally nearly \$100,000 to fund firefighter fitness and wellness programs. The grant funds exercise equipment and medical screening for all personnel to ensure the entire department is healthy and prepared when the alarm sounds. Heart attacks continue to be the #1 killing of firefighters worldwide.

6. Updated specifications and purchased new fire gear
Significant updates to the specification of the fire protective clothing that firefighters wear was a significant undertaking. With the help of a State Grant the department was able to update almost one third of the protective clothing ensuring the firefighters are wearing the safest equipment

#### 7. Boone County Fire Chiefs Association

possible while doing their jobs.

Zionsville Fire Department has spearheaded a PASS (personal accountability Safety System) which has been approved by the association whereby all fire departments within Boone County will use the exact same system that ensures all firefighters operating on large fires from multiple agencies can be tracked and accounted for while ensuring their safety at all times. Other pending and completed projects from the association including the proposed county wide traffic preemption systems that allows public safety vehicles to change traffic lights to reduce vehicle accidents, fire hydrant spacing, fire hydrant reflective markers, fire hydrant standardized fittings, and the realization of a county wide fire training center located behind the Boone County Jail with a mobile classroom obtain by the Zionsville Fire department through a Federal Surplus Property program are but a few accomplishments.

### 8. Cost Saving Measures

ISO-Insurance Service Office-Significant changes in the fire department have the potential to reduce home owners insurance rates—most home owners insurance policies are based upon an ISO rating that fire departments have, some homeowners have reported annual SAVINGS of \$100 to \$300 annually on their home owners policies as a result of the increased personnel and equipment at the Zionsville Fire department

With the addition of becoming the primary EMS provider for the service area the department will now receive funds from service charges. The department for some time had be providing EMS services however not receiving any funds from services until which time we began to transport patients. This service has a potential to fund most of, if not all of our capital needs long term.

Utilization of talented on duty personnel has realized significant saving in the vehicle maintenance field as all routine preventative maintenance is being performed in house. The department completed all annual pump testing in house this year saving the department over \$3000.00 alone on this one project.

Incident Type	2004	2005	2006	%	2007	%
1 Fire	64	73	86	19%	76	11%
2 Explosion, Overheat (no fire)	6	5	4	ı	8	1
3 Emergency Medical Service Incident	219	271	584	116%	1013	74%
4 Hazardous Condition (no fire)	60	74	69	7%	49	29%
5 Service Call	62	44	72	65%	128	80%
6 Good Intent Call	96	109	108	-	103	4%
7 False Alarm & False Call	106	139	118	15%	168	42%
8 Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	5	5	1	20%	0	-
Total Count	618	720	1042	45%	1545	48%

Incidents By Zone	2004	2005	2006	%	2007	
Union Township ** Incomplete data	31	38	**	**	59	**
Eagle Township	259	296	322	9%	378	18%
Town of Zionsville	294	353	691	96%	1055	53%
Mutual Aid	34	33	29	60%	53	82%
Total Count	618	720	1042	45%	1545	48%

# **Note worthy statistical information:**

- 1 Fires-slight decrease over 2006 most notably in building and vehicle fires
- 3 Emergency Medical Services (EMS)-For the second straight year we have seen significant increase in the EMS category.
- 5 Service Calls- The reason for the increase can be attributed to the number of public education events (especially with the use of the Safety Trailer), and general calls for assistance.
- 7 False Alarms-An increase in the these calls has also be notable for 2007

# **Simultaneous Incidents**

We experienced a tremendous increase in the number of times we had simultaneous incidents (When more than one call for help was happening at the same time). In 2004 this happened 26 times, 2005 this happened 49 times, in 2006 it happened 71 times and now 2007 we have reached 174 incidents that happened simultaneously. As the community grows this will become an even bigger item to handle. This will be covered by the hiring of additional personnel in coming years